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THURSDAY, JANUARY 25, 1912.

AMEND THE BILL.

With the demand of the women of Virginia for opportunities for education equal in all respects to that given men, except in professional courses, The Times-Dispatch fully and cordially sympathizes.

It must never be forgotten that the public schools of Virginia depend upon women for their teachers—that is, for their success. To educate women, therefore, is not a kindly courtesy, but a common sense commandment.

With uneducated or poorly educated teachers, Virginia's public schools must remain backward, and Virginia's citizens must fall short of their possibilities. But equal opportunities for education does not mean coeducation. That is why The Times-Dispatch has been doubtful of the Early-Rison bill. That bill, while protesting that it only sought a co-ordinate college, came piteously near to practical coeducation. Other States may have found coeducation effective and valuable, because they only looked at one side of the cost sheet. In Virginia we are persuaded that no possible financial economies could compensate the Commonwealth for the loss or serious impairment of the prestige and individuality of the University of Virginia. So feeling, we have advised great caution in beginning a course that many wise and devoted sons of the University of Virginia felt must end this way. On the other hand, men of equal earnestness of purpose and devotion have felt that to refuse the women of Virginia the privilege and advantage of graduating from the University of Virginia was an unjustifiable and wholly unwise course.

The best solution that we can suggest for this diversity of opinion is such an amendment of the Early-Rison bill as will eliminate all instruction in the same classrooms and all mutual use of laboratories and libraries by men and women under such conditions. It may be possible to meet the wishes of the women without sacrificing the standing and value of an institution whose services have been of immeasurable value to both sexes and to every citizen of Virginia.

THE EVILS OF PRISON LABOR.

"A prison is a perfect laboratory for the making or unmaking of human beings," is the truth stated by Julian Leavitt in a very striking article in the latest issue of the American Magazine on "The Man in the Cage." A convict is a red-blooded human being, with all the feelings and emotions of men, and Mr. Leavitt says that he might tell a thousand stories to prove the essential humanity of the prisoner under stress and strain. A convict's word, given to a humane warden, is "rarely dishonored." Only last year Colorado convicts built, without watch or guard, "the most wonderful scenic road in the world," and not a single convict broke his word. Only one man in the convict camp carries a gun, and he is a convict armed by the warden to keep off coyottes. This system of putting convicts at work on the public roads after they have given their word of honor not to escape is the system which in a recent message Governor Mann recommended to the General Assembly as a suitable plan for use in Virginia after due experiment.

"There lives no human animal more penitent and plastic than the first offender on his first day in prison," Mr. Leavitt asserts. On that day, of all days, the State can mold him easily to its civic needs. "Turn him over to a man who believes in the bottom good in him; teach him a trade whereby he may learn to support himself honestly when released; give him a share in his earnings, so that he may, even though in prison, support his innocent wife and children, or, if he is alone, save a bit of capital against that blackest day in his whole life, the distant day of liberation." Work and hope ought therefore to be given to the prisoner—a truth so obvious that it ought to be the controlling principle of our penal policy—yet, says Mr. Leavitt, "the melancholy fact is that there are not ten prisons in the country to-day which teach the prisoner a useful trade, and scarcely one, so far as I know, which permits him to make any reasonably decent provision for his dependent family." In almost half of the States the prisoner is sold to a prison contractor for an average of little more than 50 cents a day. At best, this contractor is a business man; at worst, "a merciless slaver." He has no human interest in the convict, and the latter has no rights which the contractor is bound to respect. "This is the heart of the prison problem as it confronts us in America to-day."

A convict learns first of all that he is not a ward of the State, but a "private slave in a private prison," alleges Mr. Leavitt. The contractor buys labor in bulk—a hundred or more men at a time. Two sayings about the status of the contractor are: "When the contractor steps in, the warden steps out," and "The warden holds the reins, but the contractor cracks the whip." Mr. Leavitt says:

"The contractor runs the prison. This is inevitable. Even if we assume the very best intentions on the part of everybody concerned; let the prison board be ever so honest; let the warden be ever so independent; let the contractor be ever so reasonable—yet does he run the prison. The reason is obvious. Consider: The State has invited him to bid for its slaves; he bids, presumably, as high a figure as business will permit. Once his bid is accepted and his factory installed, what else can the State do but co-operate to make his contract profitable? But what does this co-operation involve? If a prisoner refuses to work, he must be punished. If he fails to finish his tasks, he must be punished. If he is slovenly or wasteful of material, he must be punished. And every time this happens the iron enters more deeply into the prisoner's soul."

It is well and wise that the prisoner must work. Idleness would be his deep damnation. He should work to some purpose. The judge who sentences him tells him that in prison he will be taught a useful trade, so that when he gets out he will have wherewith to earn his living. The prisoner is willing to do this, but he soon finds that he is not to learn any trade that will be really useful to him when he has passed beyond prison walls. In nearly every case he is put to work to learn a woman's trade—making shirts or overalls, manufacturing hollow-ware, broom and brush making, binding twine manufacture. When the convict who can do these things is released and seeks to carry on his work he finds that his work in the prison is that of women in the world outside. In the case of broom and brush making he will have to take the money from the mouths of helpless wretches—the blind. Many companies engaged in the manufactures referred to will employ no convicts.

As boot and shoe manufacture is the employment of the convicts in the Virginia Penitentiary, what Mr. Leavitt says about this industry is very pertinent. Boot and shoe making is a trade which is being "rapidly feminized." The United States Census statistics show that in the period from 1890 to 1905 there was an increase of only 16,000 wage-earners in this industry. Women and children constituted almost 18,000 of that number. In 1905 these two classes made up 36.4 per cent. of the workers in the trade, "so that the prospect for any man with the prison stain on his record is not overbright."

The industries in which the ex-convict is capable of taking part are either overcrowded or underpaid, or both. He has no chance; he is "foreordained" to return to crime. "The prison exists only for one purpose, to protect society by the reformation of the criminal," says Mr. Leavitt. "The prisoner has but a single right, and that is the right to reformation, which means that he is entitled to be allowed to earn a trade and be started on the road to decent citizenship." Any prison which denies its inmates the right to reformation denies its own right to exist. How many of the 1,400 prisons in America can by this test justify their existence? "Hardly ten," replies Mr. Leavitt.

An illuminating picture of the convict's view of his treatment by the State is given by the writer of the article referred to. A convict just released from prison came to see Mr. Leavitt—an ex-prisoner, who did not know what to do or where to go. He worked six years in the prison shirt factory, doing women's work. He was one of the best workers, but if his work was not perfect each day he was starved and whipped. If his output fell short, the same punishment awaited him. He stayed in the factory 512 weeks. He was worth at least $10 a week to the contractors. They got more than $5,000 worth of his labor, but the convict got out of this the customary $5 on discharge, $3.20 for his railroad fare, $15 for his old clothes—a total of $23.20 for six years of work.

Hear the bitter complaint of this same man:

"But we in our cells also sit in judgment upon the State. We know all its pretensions and we know all its deeds, and in the darkness of our cells we come to a decision. We believe that the State, which professes to imprison us for our good and for the good of society, and then sells us into slavery; which pretends to teach us a trade, and then mocks us by forcing us to compete in the crowded market of woman's labor, which professes to fit us for life, and fits us only for death—we believe that the State which does these things is no better than we are.

"We have broken only the law; the State has broken faith. We are, most of us, only first offenders; the State is a habitual offender. We know that we are guilty, and are eager to reform; the State does not know and does not care. Measured by any human standard, the State is worse than we are!"

There is little to be added by way of comment. The facts argue the case. No enlightened State can, save in time of extraordinary necessity, justify itself in putting its convicts at prison labor for private profit. Every principle of humane dealing demands that the prisoner be given a fair chance to redeem himself. Reclamation of citizens should be the chief and controlling purpose guiding the State in its treatment and use of its criminal wards.

FOREBODINGS AND SALISBURY CONSOLATION.

Reviewing the Old World situation in general and the "European situation" in particular, the London Spectator does not find that it presents a very cheering aspect. There is, according to our contemporary's observations, "if not from China to Peru, from China to Tripoli and from Persia to Berlin agitation and unrest." Wherever the eyes are cast at present is disclosed a condition of restlessness and uncertainty, not only in affairs of state, but in international relations. Socialism is worrying Germany, and France has just passed through a ministerial crisis, owing to developments that revealed frictions it had been thought had been finally allayed.

The Flowery Kingdom and Ancient Iran are being weakened by domestic revolutions and temptations to their neighbors to say, "Now is the time to take this or that piece of territory which we have coveted so long." The impotency of the Young Turks against Italy and threatened racial and religious upheavals in the Ottoman Empire are going to the heads of the various Balkan states like new wine, and should these, or any one of them, become intoxicated with hope and ambition to the extent of provoking hostilities, Austria-Hungary, as our contemporary sees it, would inevitably take the field. And so it goes—or rather, the Spectator goes on—splashing splotches of gloom on its review and outlook canvas until it has worked itself, and, no doubt, many of its readers, up to a most deplorable state of pessimism.

However, at the last our contemporary does not mourn as one without hope. It believes that, after all, behind the clouds the sun may still be shining, and in turning a tentative reverse of the field of survey to the public gaze, seeks consolation in what it tells us was often said to console the late Lord Salisbury in hours of difficulty.

The consolation to which the Spectator refers is the tradition that his lordship used to declare that there "was less danger when things were bad all around than when there was only one point of peril," and this for the reason that "when there were difficulties in every direction they tended to neutralize one another." That the distinguished British statesman, who weathered safely and adroitly for his own country so many diplomatic and other storms, was justified in consoling himself with such reflections and optimism, and that the Spectator is justified in following his example, history has abundantly proved. There has seldom been a period of such general complication and foreshadowing of all-round trouble such as now exists in which the end did not work out according to the Salisbury concept.

WASHINGTON AND LEE'S NEW HEAD.

Another North Carolinian has been drafted for a Virginia university presidency. Dr. Henry Louis Smith, who was yesterday elected president of Washington and Lee, will form with Presidents Alderman, of the University of Virginia, and Barringer, of the Virginia Polytechnic Institute, a triad of sons of the Old North State serving as the executives of higher educational institutions in the Old Dominion.

No easy task has it been to fill Dr. Denny's chair at Washington and Lee; it truly seemed that "Ulysses has gone and there is none left in Ithaca that can bend his bow," but the trustees of the ancient and honorable university at Lexington have, as James Russell Lowell said of Eliot when he was chosen president of Harvard, "found a captain at last." The record of Dr. Smith, the president-elect, is absolutely and admirably constructive. In fact, his work at Davidson College, where he has served as president for a decade, has been to a great degree analogous to that of Dr. Denny at Washington and Lee. Taking hold of Davidson College in 1901, when it was a small but most efficient college, President Smith more than doubled its attendance in his ten years' service; raised the entrance requirements to the fourteen points standard; doubled the equipment of the college; trebled the amount of money collected from students, and in every way upbuilt and strengthened Davidson. Under his administration Davidson has been changed from a comparatively unknown denominational college into an institution of most favorable note, with a well earned reputation for sound scholarship and real training for life. For almost a quarter of a century, as professor of physics and president of Davidson College, Dr. Smith rendered conspicuous and substantial service as a teacher and a leader, holding always the affectionate regard of students and alumni. Ask a Davidson man about Dr. Smith, and he will speak glowingly of both the instructor and the man.

It is an interesting coincidence that the new president is a grandson of Washington and Lee, for his father was an honored alumnus of Washington and Lee and a native of Lexington. While he is A. B. and M. A. of Davidson and a LL. D. of the University of North Carolina, Dr. Smith received his doctorate of philosophy from the University of Virginia, where he was enrolled for two sessions. He is widely known as a scientist, and has lectured and written much upon scientific topics, and is a member of the National Geographical Society and the American Academy for the Advancement of Science. He took the first X-ray photographs south of Johns Hopkins, and is an authority on the X-ray.

The President-elect of Washington and Lee is a member of a family remarkable for the unusual mental ability of its members. Dr. Smith is one of several brothers, each of whom has won a just reputation for his brilliant gifts. The late Dr. Samuel M. Smith, one of these brothers, was one of the most intellectually powerful men in the Southern Presbyterian ministry, a rounded scholar, and a compelling preacher. His oration at the unveiling of the monument erected in Columbia, S. C., to the memory of N. G. Gonzales, the murdered editor of the Columbia State, ranks with the best in Southern annals. Two other brothers are forceful and unusually able Presbyterian ministers. A third brother is our own Dr. Charles Alphonso Smith, Poe professor of English in the University of Virginia and former Roosevelt professor at the University of Berlin, one of the most distinguished and ablest English scholars and teachers in the nation. A nephew, Dr. Reed Smith, is associate professor of English in the University of South Carolina, a young scholar of rare promise, who shows in the second generation the fine qualities of the first.

Washington and Lee is to be congratulated upon her new head, for he is a man who will work in full accord with the splendid traditions of the institution; he will carry forward into the new that which was good and true and beautiful in the old. His energy, his constructive vision, his patient, powerful leadership will guide and direct Washington and Lee into the greater prosperity and greater work that lies before that noble seat of learning.

A Brewer is Governor of Mississippi, but the State is dry.

"Fired First Gun on Sumter" ran the headline announcing the death of an ex-Confederate, Captain Julius A. Sitgreaves, in New York. Patriotic old Edmund Ruffin, of Virginia, fired the shot that temporarily severed the nation; it was a Virginian, not a South Carolinian, who started the firing whose last echo was at Appomattox.

Underwood's hoodoo has begun—Hobson has come out for him.

Why should the General Assembly refuse to help the suffragist make a man of herself?

A lot of dry speeches in the Capitol yesterday, but that's nothing unusual.

QUERIES & ANSWERS

Parental Authority.

Please inform me whether a girl is legally under the authority of her father when she is eighteen years old.
R. O.

In Virginia she is.

Judicial.

Please inform me what number of Circuit Courts there were in Virginia under the old Constitution, and what number there are under the new.
MAX.

Seventeen at the date of adoption of present Constitution. Thirty now.

Exploration in Virginia.

Can you tell me whether Governor Spotswood's expedition was the first into the western part of Virginia?
ORANGE.

By no means. Colonel Wood, in 1654, and Captain Batte, in 1666, preceded him.

A Date.

Please tell me what day of the week was January 8, 1882.
C. B. NUNNALLY.

Sunday.

Voice of the People

Delegate Criticizes Anti-Saloon League.

To the Editor of The Times-Dispatch:

Sir,—I am a delegate from the First Baptist Church of Norfolk to the annual meeting of the Anti-Saloon League. I had prepared a short address to be delivered to the delegates, but I have been informed that the program has been arranged, and that I cannot speak to the delegates. As I am leaving Richmond to-day, and as I earnestly desire to express my opinion, I request you to publish the following:

Some years ago I became interested in the Anti-Saloon League. I did what I could see as my duty to assist the movement. I confess, with much regret, however, that I have not (like many others) been able to keep a line upon its work. This is discouraging to many of its supporters and workers. Some of the league's actions have been deep and mysterious. The league appears to be using a great deal of money in a wrong way in elections; some of its business methods appear quite loose, and there appears to have been no satisfactory information for the investor in the league's activities. While unable to get information or to obtain tangible results to my satisfaction, one of my friends told me that he had been successful to this extent; soon after sending in his remittance he received from a mail order liquor house all sorts of advertising matter calculated to induce one to place an order for liquor on the "quiet." My friend made no charge that any of the officials of the Anti-Saloon League were guilty, but he labored under the impression that the league was retaining an unworthy assistant in its office force, or something of that sort.

I hope the Anti-Saloon League is a straight business proposition and a straight business organization, and that it will pursue its objects through pure business methods. As is well known, thousands of dollars have been paid to the league awaiting proper use. But the donors want to know something and see something as nearly equal to their money as is possible become the other thousands of dollars that are awaiting to be paid will be forthcoming. If one takes even a stone into his hand and throws it, much more a silver dollar, he will look to see about what direction it took. Money contributed to noble causes is usually from business men, and business men are business-like enough, as a rule, to know where their money is going, and they naturally expect a report of the affairs in hand.

I am afraid the league has been, in the past, badly or unwisely interested in politics. Let us draw the line correctly. What would cunning politicians do to the ways and means of an Anti-Saloon League? The conclusion is so easily reached the most innocent could grasp it. Why the very next day after an election the league would resemble a cocked hat or a last year's bird's nest. I know of one way in which the Anti-Saloon League could accomplish a great deal, if not its entire purpose, in politics. Some of you may laugh when I state it and others may think it too absurd to even cause laughter. The way is to lend a hand to the suffragettes. When we have the women voters behind us, or ahead of us, there will be no need for an Anti-Saloon League, nor for the recall; men and their wives will decide the matter at the table the night before. There will then be no saloons nor gin-head judges and the executives of the State and nation will be more careful about the appointments they make. When you laugh at the suffragettes you may read the handwriting on the wall at the same time. I tell you, the power of our good women will not be long withheld from the ballot, and if the Anti-Saloon League was advocating their cause with the General Assembly to-day it would be doing its best duty. This, too, is a rejected stone that shall become the head of the corner, and that soon.

My dear friends, I, for one, do long for the day when we can glide along through this life with prohibition on the one hand and a suffragette swinging tightly to the other.

E. WHITE ATKINSON,
Delegate First Baptist Church, Norfolk, Va.
Richmond, January 24, 1912.

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A Reply to Professor Graves.

To the Edtor of The Times-Dispatch:

Sir.—As the attitude of the faculty of the University of Virginia in regard to the establishment of a co-ordinate college for women has come up in connection with the discussion of the bill for that purpose now before the Legislature, will you kindly publish the following resolutions passed by a vote of 42 to 5 at a meeting of the general faculty held May 11, 1911:

Very truly yours,
ORMOND STONE.

January 24, 1912.

1. Resolved, That the president and faculty of the University of Virginia commend, as an act of justice and ultimate necessity, the proposal that the State of Virginia establish an institution for the higher education of women.

2. That the president and faculty favor the execution of the proposed plan at the earliest moment that the State shall feel able to lay the foundation of such an institution broadly and comprehensively and to make reasonable provision for its normal growth.

3. That the president and faculty of the university are opposed to the principle of co-education of the sexes in the collegiate and professional departments of the University of Virginia. In the higher fields of graduate work beyond the B. A. Courses, such a plan may be feasible, though the faculty are not prepared at present to commit themselves to the principle.

4. It is the belief of the president and the faculty of the University of Virginia that the purpose of the State to provide higher education for women could be best subserved by establishing in the environment of the university a college for women with a separate and distinct personality and academic life, but so allied to the University of Virginia, through its executive department and governing board as to avoid unnecessary duplication of work and expenditure, and as to gain the advantage of integral connection with the university.

5. It is their belief further that such co-ordination presents the best solution of this perplexed question, and will result in increasing the power and usefulness of the University of Virginia in practical service to the State as a whole, and will greatly increase the power of the proposed new institution in the matter of equipment, traditions, standards and ideals.

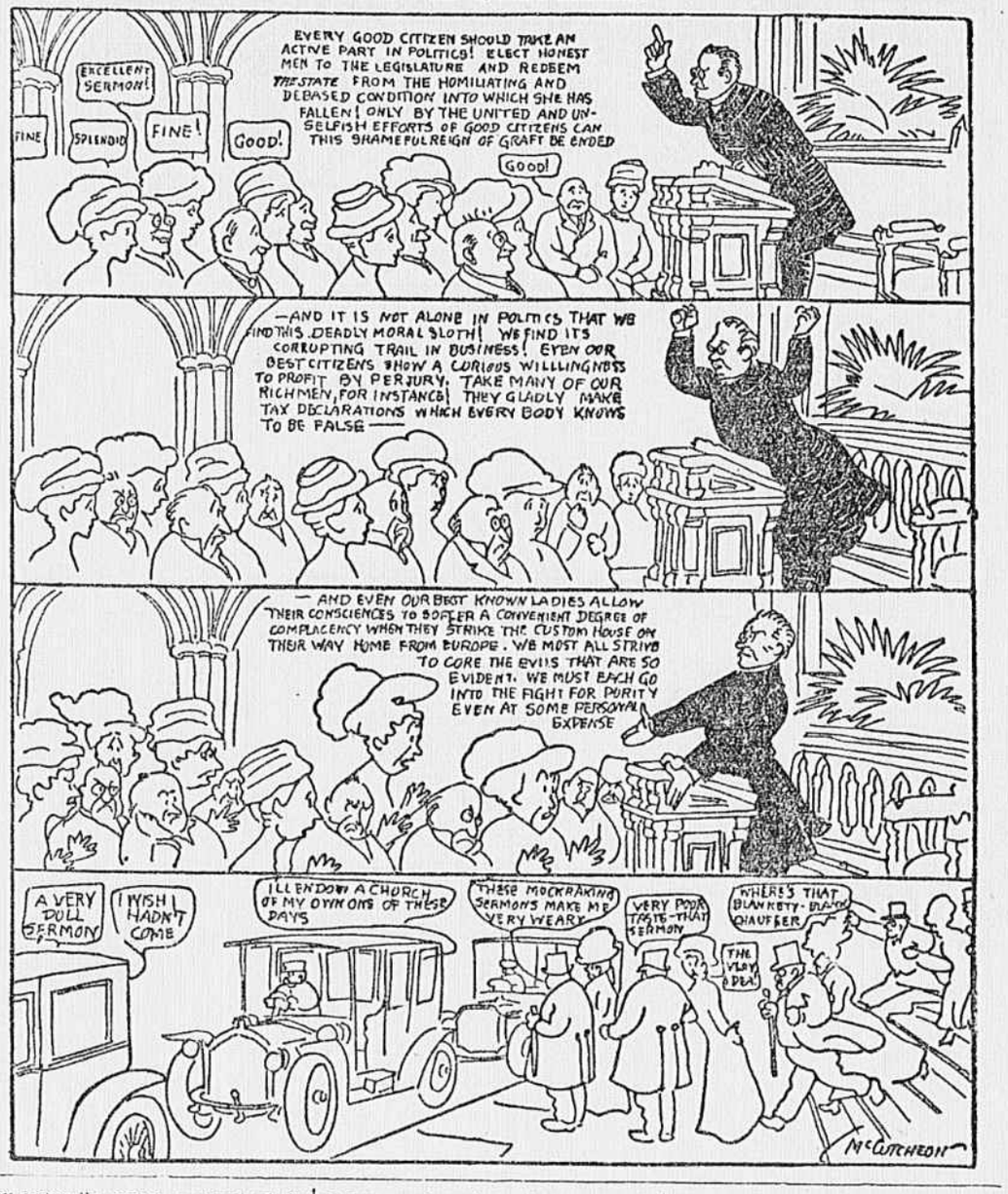
Abe Martin

The world is gettin' better—Wapakoneta, Anglaize county, Ohio, has a Republican mayor. Miss Fawn Lippincut says she kin hardly wait till she gets up in th' mornin' t' see who's confessed.

A SERMON IN A FASHIONABLE CHURCH.

By John T. McCutcheon.

[Copyright: 1912: By John T. McCutcheon.]



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La Varquise de Fontenoy

LORD DESART remains through the sudden death, at Freemantle, Australia, of his only surviving brother, Captain the Hon. Otway Cuffe, without any heir to his Irish earldom, two viscounties, and two baronies, all of which will therefore become extinct on his demise. One of the baronies is a United Kingdom peerage, and carries with it a seat in the House of Lords. Lord Desart is principally known in this country as one of the British members of the international court of arbitration at the Hague, and also through the marriage of his daughter, Lady Sybil Cuffe, to the late William Bayard Cutting, Jr., of New York. He was for many years public prosecutor, rejoices in the altogether appalling Christian name of Agmondisham, which was borne by the father of the first Lord Resart, and also by the latter's maternal grandfather, Colonel Agmondisham Muschamp, of Cromwell's Roundhead army, through whom a considerable amount of landed property in Ireland came into the family.

The Cuffes originally hailed from Somersetshire, but since Tudor times have been settled in Ireland. Henry Cuffe receiving a grant of 8,000 acres of land in County Cork, from Queen Elizabeth.

The late Captain Otway Cuffe was for a number of years A. D. C. to Field Marshal the Duke of Connaught, saw active service in the Rifle Brigade, in the Ashanti War, and other campaigns, and despite his pronounced sympathies with the home rule party, was gentleman in waiting, successively to Queen Victoria, to Edward VII., and to King George. In 1907 Captain Cuffe was elected Mayor of Kilkenny, by the unanimous vote of the Corporation, every member of which was a Nationalist. He was also president of the Kilkenny branch of the Gaelic League, and took a leading part in the cultivation of tobacco in Ireland, being in fact the managing director of a tobacco growing company, in which his widowed sister-in-law, the dowager Countess of Desart, is one of the principal stockholders.

This dowager Countess of Desart is daughter and heiress of the late Henry Bischoffsheim, the well-known London financier, and owner of the London Daily News. Some time ago the town of Kilkenny voted her its freedom, in recognition of all the good she had done for the people of the district, this being the first instance of a woman, or of a member of the Jewish race, ever being honored with the freedom of a city or town in the Emerald Isle.

The new Earl of Carlisle is a midshipman of the royal navy, and his still several years to wait before he attains his majority, and enters into possession of his father's seat in the House of Lords, and of the large family fortunes, which were augmented last fall by the late earl's sale to the National Gallery of the famous Mabuse painting of the "Adoration of the Magi," for the sum of $200,000, the painting being universally regarded as the masterpiece of Jan Gossart.

The ancestral home of the new earl is Castle Howard, in Yorkshire, one of the grandest country seats in the United Kingdom, equalling, according to some, surpassing, according to others, the Duke of Marlborough's Palace of Blenheim, and designed, like the latter, by the famous architect, Sir John Vanbrough. A more majestic pile of its peculiar style does not exist in England, and it would not be easy to match it outside of Italy.

The Castle Howard estate in Yorkshire has been in the possession of the family of Lord Carlisle since the foundation of that branch of the house of Howard, of which he is now the chief, by Lord William Howard, the fourth Duke of Norfolk's youngest son, who married the heiress of Lord Dacre, owner of Naworth Castle, in Cumberland, and of Hindershelfe, the site of which is now occupied by Castle Howard. This Lord William Howard was warden of the Northern Marches, and known by the nickname of Rawld Wyllie, has been sung as "Belted Will Howard," by Sir Walter Scott, in his poems. Lady William was known by her contemporaries as "Boss wi' the Brawd Apron," not on account of wearing one of these garments remarkable for its breadth, but because of the large number of landed estates which she had brought to her husband in marriage. It was her great-grandson, Charles Howard, who having been captain of Oliver Cromwell's bodyguard during the Civil War, was created by the protector baron of Gilsland, and Viscount Howard of Morpeth.

On finding what a feeble successor the protector had left in his son, Richard Cromwell, Charles Howard, who was governor of the Castle of Carlisle, at the time of the Restoration, sided with General Monk, and helped to bring about the return to England of Charles II. The latter took no notice of the Cromwellian honors accorded to Charles Howard, but about a year later raised him to the peerage anew, as Lord Racre of Gilsland, Viscount Howard of Morpeth, and Earl of Carlisle. King Charles held him in high regard, sent him as ambassador to the Czar of Russia, and also to the court of Sweden, where he invested Charles XI. with the Order of the Garter. He was likewise Governor of Jamaica. Curiously enough, no mention whatever is made in the pages of "Burke," or in any other standard works of reference, about the two peerages bestowed upon Charles Howard by the protector.

The fifth Earl of Carlisle was the guardian of his relative, the poet Byron, and was so terribly scandalized by his ward's depravity that on this account he declined to introduce him when he took his seat in the House of Lords. This led to a bitter quarrel, which has been placed on lasting record in several of Byron's poems.

Students of American history will recall that this Lord Carlisle (who lives in the memory of the Irish people as the most popular viceroy that ever governed the Emerald Isle from Dublin Castle) came to this country in 1777, as special ambassador from George III., to bring about a reconciliation with the revolted colonies, but was met on landing here with the news that the United States had effected a treaty of alliance with France. While in America Lord Carlisle was challenged by General the Marquis de Lafayette to fight a duel for having in his correspondence denounced the conduct of the French government as treacherous. The peer, however, declined the challenge, on the ground that he could not accept the cartel for what he had done in the discharge of his public duty.

In adopting the naval profession the new Earl of Carlisle is maintaining the family traditions in the matter of service to the nation. Two of his father's brothers are cavalry officers, a third, the Hon. Hubert Howard, was killed at the battle of Omdurman, while yet another, the Hon. Oliver Howard, the most brilliant of the lot, succumbed to fever a few years ago while holding the office of British resident and Governor of Northern Nigeria. He did not know what fear was, and when at Oxford some one dared him to ride down a long flight of stone steps, leading from one of the halls to the cloister, on his bicycle, he brought his machine into the college, which in itself constituted a breach of the rules, conveyed it to the top of the steps, and then started down at lightning speed to the bottom. He escaped in the most miraculous fashion, with a few bad bruises. But the bicycle was smashed beyond all hope of repair.

Oliver spent several years farming in British Columbia before going out to East Africa, and both he and his brother, the late Hubert Howard, will be recalled in connection with their championship of the insurgent cause in Cuba, prior to the Spanish-American War, in 1897, spending much time among the Cuban rebels, by whom he was looked upon as a warm and loyal friend.

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